

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Amend page 1, lines 7-12 as follows:

-- The slabs of ceramic material to which both the method according to the present invention and that of the above mentioned patent refer are the subject of U.S. Patent 5,264,168 and are manufactured from a ceramic mixture consisting of a granulate complying with specific parameters as regards particle size and of ~~an aqueous-inorganic binder a binding phase~~ which has special composition characteristics and for the details of which reference should be made to the text of the aforementioned U.S. patent. --

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